



Repeater: NØDX 145.190 MHz (Input 144.590 / Tone 192.8 Hz)


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The Eastern Iowa DX Bulletin

Number 256, January 10, 2025

Craig Fastenow, KØCF, Editor

This bulletin is a compilation of **currently active** DX operations (or those that will become active within the current week) from recent issues of the three DX bulletins listed below and other sources. Credit for the source is given at the end of each article.

Articles are ordered by the entity's callsign prefix from the *ARRL DXCC Entities List*. Callsigns used are in **bold** with dates of operation highlighted in **red**. Clickable links are provided for QSL and other information wherever possible. Note that articles may be edited for grammar, language, style and accuracy and will remain in *The Bulletin* while active; articles that are announcements of ongoing operations, or that have no specified end date, will be removed after three weeks.

Also included is a [Propagation](#) section, updated daily; and a [Contest Calendar](#) of upcoming popular contests.

DX News items are courtesy of:

The ARRL DX Bulletin

The bulletin is available at <http://www.arrl.org>

425 DX News, A.R.I. DX Bulletin (425DXN)

Edited by Mauro Pregliasco, I1JQJ & Valeria Pregliasco, IK1ADH

425 DX News Home Page: <https://www.425dxn.org/>

425 DX News Google Group: <https://groups.google.com/g/425eng>

DX Newsletter (DXNL)

Edited by Andreas Salder, DK5ON

A weekly service of DARC Committee "DX", <http://www.darcdxhf.de>

Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin (OPDX)

Edited by Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW. Although OPDX is no longer published as a weekly bulletin, Tedd still sends DX news emails.

We will occasionally publish some of them.

Propagation data is from:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's

[Space Weather Prediction Center](#)

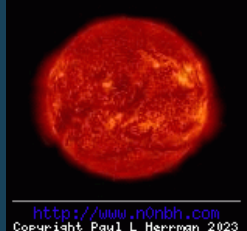
Dr. Tony Phillips' SpaceWeather.com, used by permission

Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)



Solar-Terrestrial Data

11 Jan 2025 1818 GMT
 SFI: 157 SN: 82
 A-Index: 12
 K-Index: 1
 X-Ray: B8.5
 304A: 152.2 @ SEM
 Ptn Flx: 6
 Elc Flx: 3670
 Aurora: 2/n=1.99
 Mag (Bz): -2.5
 Solar Wind: 432.8
 Geomag Field VR QUIET
 Sig Noise Lvl S0-S1
 Current Solar Image



<http://www.nonbh.com>
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DX News

3X, GUINEA. Jean-Philippe, F1TMY (ex-J28PJ), will be back on the air as **3X1A** until mid-2026 from Conakry on 80-6m and via QO-100. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#).

-[DXNL # 2439 January 1, 2025] (0103-0124)

5W, SAMOA. OE3GEA operates as **5WØGE** from January 9th to 12th from Apia on 30-10m (mostly CW). QSL via [OE3GEA](#), LoTW, eQSL.

-[DXNL # 2440 January 8, 2025] (0110-0117)

5Z, KENYA. Scott, WA5A is QRV as **5Z4/WA5A** from Ruaka. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using mostly SSB. His length of stay is unknown. QSL via [WA5A](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 2 January 9, 2025] (0110-0131)

6W, SENEGAL. Billy, F4GJE, operates as **6W1RD** on **January 11th and 12th**. QRV on 80-10m SSB and FT4/8. QSL via [EA7ETR](#).

-[DXNL # 2440 January 8, 2025] (0110-0117)

7P, LESOTHO. Mark, KW4XJ, and his daughter Arina, KO4PZT (13 years old), are active **until mid-2025** as **7P8AB** and **7P8NB**. QSL via [KW4XJ](#).

-[DXNL # 2439 January 1, 2025] (0103-0207)

8Q, MALDIVES. Fabian, DF3XY and Xenia, DO4FX will be QRV as **8Q7XF** and **8Q7FX**, respectively, from **January 5th to 13th**. Activity will be on 40, 30, and 20 meters using FT8. QSL 8Q7XF via [DF3XY](#); QSL 8Q7FX via [DO4FX](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 1 January 2, 2025] (0103-0117)

8R, GUYANA. Aldir, PY1SAD will be active again as **8R1TM** from Georgetown, Guyana from **January 1st to February 8th**. He will operate CW, SSB and digital modes on all bands and via satellite. QSL via LoTW, eQSL, QRZ Logbook, or direct via [PY1SAD](#).

-[425DXN # 1755 December 21, 2024] (1227-0207)

9N, NEPAL. Robert, **9N7AA** (S53R) is going to be active on the low bands on **January 10th-12th**. This will be "a real DXpedition" to a hill near Kathmandu, carrying some 200 kg of equipment. The plan involves operating on 30 and 40 meters initially, with the intention to set up vertical antennas for 80 and 160 meters the following day, depending on the success of the first night and local QRM. The antennas are expected to remain in place for a few months. QSL via LoTW, or direct to [S56DX](#).

-[425DXN # 1758 January 11, 2025] (0110-0117)

9V, SINGAPORE. Celebrating the 60th anniversary since Singapore became an independent republic (August 9, 1965), Singapore Amateur Radio Transmitting Society's members are allowed to replace their normal prefix (9V1) with the special prefix **S6Ø** from **January 1st through August 9th**. For instance, SARTS President 9V1SA will be using **S6ØSA**.

-[425DXN # 1756 December 28, 2024] (1227-0117)

9Y, TRINIDAD & TOBAGO. Earl, WA3DX will be QRV as **9Y4/WA3DX** from Trinidad (SA-011) from **December 29th to January 14th**. Activity will be 40 to 10 meters using FT8 and FT4. QSL via [WA3DX](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 48 December 26, 2024] (1227-0117)

C6, BAHAMAS. Mark, AA1AC, signs **VP9/AA1AC** from **January 11th to 18th** on 80-10m. QSL via [AA1AC](#).

-[DXNL # 2440 January 8, 2025] (0110-0117)

CE9, ANTARCTICA. Felix, DL5XL will be QRV as **DP1POL** from the German research station Neumayer III, IOTA AN-016, from **January 12th to February 25th**. Activity will be in his spare time on the HF bands using mostly CW with some SSB and various digital modes. QSL via [DL1ZBO](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 2 January 9, 2025] (0110-0228)

CN, MOROCCO. Ralf, DB4REB will be active as **CN2REB** while vacationing in Morocco from **November 30th to January 30, 2025**. He plans to operate CW, FT8 and SSB on various bands from Agadir and some POTA sites along the coast. See <https://www.qrz.com/db/CN2REB> for updates. QSL via eQSL, or [DB4REB](#).

-[425DXN # 1751 November 23, 2024] (1129-0131)

DXCC TOP TWENTY. Here are the top 20 entities on ClubLog's "DXCC Most Wanted" list as of January 9, 2025:

1. P5	DPRK (North Korea)	11. ZS8	Prince Edward & Marion Islands
2. BS7H	Scarborough Reef	12. KH4	Midway Island
3. CEØX	San Felix Islands	13. VKØM	Macquarie Island
4. BV9P	Pratas Island	14. PYØS	Saint Peter And Paul Rocks
5. KH7K	Kure Island	15. KP5	Desecheo Island

6. KH3	Johnston Island	16. VPØS	South Sandwich Islands
7. 3Y/P	Peter 1 Island	17. ZL9	New Zealand Subantarctic Islands
8. FT5/X	Kerguelen Island	18. FK/C	Chesterfield Islands
9. YVØ	Aves Island	19. VKØH	Heard Island
10. 3Y/B	Bouvet Island	20. FT/T	Tromelin Island

For the complete list, see <https://clublog.org/mostwanted.php>

-[KØCF January 10, 2025] (0110-0131)

DL, GERMANY. Radio amateurs in Kamenz (DOK S22) celebrate their city's 800th anniversary with the callsign **DM8ØØKM** (special DOK 800KM) **throughout 2025**. QSLs will be sent automatically via the bureau; logs are uploaded to ClubLog and qrz.com.

-[DXNL # 2439 January 1, 2025] (0103-0124)

DL, GERMANY. The Deutsches Museum in Munich, one of the largest science and technology museums in the world (<https://www.deutsches-museum.de>), celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2025. **DL1ØØDM** is the special callsign to be used **throughout the year** by the amateur radio station which is part of and regularly active from the museum's "Electronics" permanent exhibition. QSL via [DL8FA](#).
-[425DXN # 1756 December 28, 2024] (0103-0124)

FG, GUADELOUPE. Jeff, VA3QSL will be active holiday style as **FG/VA3QSL** from Guadeloupe (NA-102) on **January 9th-26th**. He will operate SSB, CW and digital modes on 40-6 meters. QSLs via LoTW, or [VA3QSL](#).

-[425DXN # 1756 December 28, 2024] (0103-0124)

FO, FRENCH POLYNESIA. Hardy, DL7JLL is QRV as **FO/DL7JLL** from Mangareva Island (OC-063) **until January 15th**. Activity is on 20, 15, and 10 meters using SSB. QSL to [DL7JLL](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 47 December 19, 2024] (1220-0117)

FO/M, MARQUESAS IS. A large multi-national team will be active as **TX7N** from Hiva Oa, Marquesas Islands (OC-027) on **January 12th-27th**. They will operate CW, SSB and digital modes on 160-6 meters with five stations. In addition to TX7N, other three special callsigns will be used: **TX7MAS** to be used for EME and satellite; **TX7WW** to be used during the CQ WW 160-Meter CW Contest (**January 24th-26th**); **TX1ØØREF** in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Réseau des Emetteurs Francais, to be used during the French HF Championship CW (**January 26th-27th**). See <https://tx7n.com/> and <https://www.facebook.com/TX7N25> for more information and updates. QSL exclusively via [ClubLog's QQRS](#) and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1756 December 28, 2024] (0110-0131)

G, ENGLAND. Special callsign **GB7ØRS** is celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Radio Society of Great Britain's weekly news service (GB2RS), which has been running continuously since September 25, 1955 (<https://rsgb.org/main/gb2rs/>). GB7ØRS is operated by the radio amateurs who work to deliver GB2RS each week, both the editorial staff at RSGB HQ and the newsreaders spread around the UK and Crown Dependencies who transmit it every Sunday. QSL via the bureau, LoTW and eQSL.

-[425DXN # 1758 January 11, 2025] (0110-0131)

GM, SCOTLAND. Terry, GM3WUX will be QRV as **GB2ØØLB** from **January 4th to 31st** to celebrate the bicentenary of the invention of the Braille code. Activity is on the HF bands using mainly CW. QSL via [MØOXO's QQRS](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 1 January 2, 2025] (0103-0131)

GW, WALES. Kev, GWØPUH will be active as **GB9KW** on **January 1st-28th** using vintage equipment manufactured by KW Electronics Ltd during the 1960s and 1970s. Main activity will be over the "KW Weekend" (**January 4th-5th**). Other special callsigns are expected to be on the air, notably **GB2KW** from Scotland, **GB5KWD** and **GB6KW** from England, and possibly others. QSL via operator's instructions.

-[425DXN # 1756 December 28, 2024] (1227-0131)

H4Ø, TEMOTU PROVINCE. Darren, VK4MAP is QRV as **H4ØDA** from Pigeon Island (OC-065) **until January 16th**. Activity is on 80, 40, 20, 15, 12, and 10 meters using SSB. QSL via operator's instructions.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 1 January 2, 2025] (0103-0117)

HB, SWITZERLAND. Special callsign **HB2ØSOTA** celebrates the 20th anniversary of the Swiss SOTA Group (HB9SOTA) **throughout 2025**. A certificate will be available, see <https://hb9sota.ch/en/> for more information.

-[425DXN # 1758 January 11, 2025] (0110-0131)

HR, HONDURAS. Alex, K6VHF, returns to Roatan Island (NA-057) and operates as **K6VHF/HR9** from **January 5th to 12th**. QRV on 160-6m and via satellites IO-117 and RS-44. QSL via [K6VHF](#), [ClubLog's OQRS](#), LoTW, eQSL.

-[DXNL # 2439 January 1, 2025] (0103-0117)

HR, HONDURAS. Dave, VE3VSM will be QRV as **VE3VSM/HR9**, from Roatan Island (NA-057) from **January 6th to 25th**. Activity will be on 30 and 20 meters using CW and FT8. QSL to [K6VHF](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 1 January 2, 2025] (0103-0124)

I, ITALY. Throughout 2025 ARI Fidenza will use a series of special callsigns, each representing one of the many patents registered by Guglielmo Marconi between 1897 and 1926: **II4FPEN** (January), **II4FPUS** (February), **II4SHLD** (March), **II4GHPR** (April), **II4JGGR** (May), **II4RXOS** (June), **II4COHR** (July), **II4LDMA** (August), **II4RADS** (September), **II4WLTx** (October), **II4EACC** (November) and **II4TJTB** (December). Information about the "Marconi - Patented By" award: <http://www.arifidenza.it/>. QSL via [IQ4FE](#) and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1757 January 4, 2025] (0103-0207)

JD1/M, MINAMI TORISHIMA. Take, JG8NQJ is QRV as **JG8NQJ/JD1** until **March 1st**. Activity is in his spare time. Of late, he has been active on 15 meters using CW around 2300z. QSL via [JA8CJY](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 2 January 9, 2025] (0110-0131)

K, UNITED STATES. The Straight Key Century Club's annual on-air event, commemorating the club's founding in 2006 and celebrating the original instruments of early radiotelegraphy (straight key, bug and cootie keys), will run on **January 2nd-31st**. Look for **K3Y** to be aired from the ten US call areas (**K3Y/Ø** through **K3Y/9**), plus **/KH6**, **/KL7** and **/KP4**. Information on the event and QSL instructions can be found on <https://skccgroup.com/k3y/k3y.php>.

-[425DXN # 1756 December 28, 2024] (1227-0131)

LA, NORWAY. Special callsign **LA1ØØA** is the for NRRL's Midt-Troms Gruppen (LA6M, <https://www.la6m.no/>) to use **throughout 2025** to mark the 100th anniversary of the first amateur radio two-way contact between Norway and the US, made by Johannes Diesen, LA1A from Moen in Malselv municipality and UIYB at Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire (November 25, 1925). QSL via the bureau, QRZ Logbook, or via [LA1ØØA](#).

-[425DXN # 1756 December 28, 2024] (1227-0124)

LZ, BULGARIA. Radio Club Blagovestnik (LZ1KCP) will use six special callsigns during 2025 to honor as many different Orthodox saints: **LZ4Ø3ES** (January and February), **LZ372SG** (March and April), **LZ286MDK** (May and June), **LZ591MK** (July and August), **LZ117ME** (September and October) and **LZ3Ø6WW** (November and December). Details on the "All Saints 2025 Award" can be found at <https://www.lz1kcp.com/>. QSL via the bureau or direct to P.O. Box 36, 4300 Karlovo, Bulgaria.

-[425DXN # 1758 January 11, 2025] (0110-0131)

OH, FINLAND. Special callsign **OF6ØAP** celebrates the Central Uusimaa Radio Amateurs Association (OH2AP) 60th anniversary **throughout 2025**. A certificate will be available, see https://oh2ap.fi/?page_id=491. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#).

-[425DXN # 1758 January 11, 2025] (0110-0131)

PA, NETHERLANDS. Special callsign **PC8ØTT** is the for members of VERON Leiden (PI4LDN) to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the liberation of the Netherlands during World War II (May 5, 1945). Look for activity from **January 1st until June 1st**. The special callsign honors the memory of Rudolf Tappenbeck (PCTT), a pioneer of Dutch amateur radio who died in Neuengamme concentration camp on December 21, 1944. QSL via the bureau to [PI4LDN](#).

-[425DXN # 1756 December 28, 2024] (1227-0124)

PACIFIC TOUR. Reportedly, Gerhard, OE3GEA will be active holiday style from New Caledonia, Fiji, Vanuatu, Samoa, American Samoa and Hawaii from **December 20th to January 21st**:

January 9th-12th	5WØGE	Apia (OC-097)
January 12th-15th	KH8/OE3GEA	Pago Pago (OC-045)
January 18th-21st	KH6/OE3GEA	Hawaii

He will operate CW on 30-10 meters. QSL via [OE3GEA](#).

-[425DXN # 1754 December 14, 2024] (1220-0124)

PACIFIC TRIP. Hardy, DL7JLL will be active as **FO/DL7JLL** from Mangareva (OC-063), French Polynesia and as **VP6JLL** from Pitcairn Island (OC-044) from **December 18th to January 15th**. He will operate SSB only on 20, 15 and 10 meters. QSL via [DL7JLL](#).

-[425DXN # 1754 December 14, 2024] (1213-0117)

PJ2, CURACAO. PD1DRE will be active as **PJ2/PD1DRE** from **January 14th to February 4th**. He will operate SSB on 40, 20 and 10 meters. QSL via eQSL.

-[425DXN # 1757 January 4, 2025] (0110-0207)

PJ2, CURACAO. Thaire, W2APF will be active as **PJ2/W2APF** from **January 12th to April 8th**. He will operate CW, SSB and FT8 on 80-10 meters. QSL via LoTW or [W2APF](#).

-[425DXN # 1757 January 4, 2025] (0110-0404)

PJ4, BONAIRE. Masumi/JA3AVO, Nakasako/JA3UJR, Jusei/JA3IVU, Kunio/JA1CJA, Shozo/JA3HJI, and Hiroko/JH3PBL, of the JA3 DX Vacation Group, activate the PJ4G QTH from **January 13th to 20th** with the callsign **PJ4JA** on 160-6m using CW, SSB and digital modes; and via satellites. Some group members may use their US callsigns individually: JA3AVO as **PJ4/W7AVO**, JA1CJA as **PJ4/AE6XY**, JA3IVU as **PJ4/K1TAI**, JA3HJI as **PJ4/W3HJI**, and JH3PBL as **PJ4/W7PBL**. For more information see: <https://bccweb.bai.ne.jp/~asg99501/pj4ja.htm>. QSL via LoTW, [ClubLog's OQRS](#), or direct to [JA3AVO](#).

-[DXNL # 2440 January 8, 2025] (0110-0124)

T8, PALAU. Operators JA6EGL and JE6KFN are QRV as **T88SM** and **T88XX**, respectively, from Koror (OC-009) **until January 16th**. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and various digital modes. QSL T88SM via [JA6EGL](#) and T88XX via [JE6KFN](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 2 January 9, 2025] (0110-0117)

TJ, CAMEROON. Thierry, TK1CX is QRV as **TJ/TK1CX** **until the end of February**. Activity is in his spare time on 20 to 10 meters using mostly FT8 and low power. QSL via LoTW, eQSL, or [EA5ZD](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 47 December 19, 2024] (1220-0228)

TY, BENIN. Gerard, F5NVF is QRV as **TY5C** from Godomey **until April 2nd**. Activity is holiday style on 80 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL direct to [F5RAV](#), or via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 2 January 9, 2025] (0110-0404)

V4, ST. KITTS & NEVIS. Kim, K5TU will be active as **V4/K5TU** from St. Kitts (NA-104) on **January 7th to 14th**. He will operate CW and FT8. QSL via LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1757 January 4, 2025] (0103-0117)

VP5, TURKS & CAICOS IS. John, NØVOF, and his sons WD5JR and KJ5CMP will be active from Providenciales Island (NA-002) as **VP5/NØVOF**, **VP5/WD5JR** and **VP5/KJ5CMP** respectively **until January 16th**. QRV on 80-6m (CW, SSB, FT8), also from various POTA references. QSL VP5/NØVOF via [NØVOF](#), VP5/WD5JR via [WD5JR](#) and VP5/KJ5CMP via [KJ5CMP](#).

-[DXNL # 2440 January 8, 2025] (0110-0117)

VP6, PITCAIRN I. Hardy, DL7JLL, signs **VP6JLL** from Pitcairn Island (OC-044) from **December 18th to January 15th**. QRV on 20, 15, and 10m with 50W and a wire antenna on SSB. QSL via [DL7JLL](#).

-[DXNL # 2437 December 18, 2024] (1220-0117)

VU, INDIA. Members of the West Bengal Radio Club are QRV with special event callsign **AU2WBRC** **until January 20th** for the Ganaga Sagar Mela Festival. QSL via [VU2SB](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 1 January 2, 2025] (0103-0124)

VU, INDIA. Kaustav, VU2UUU is QRV with special call sign **AT2Ø25** until January 15th while studying winter propagation, and monitoring solar cycle conditions. Activity is on the HF bands using CW and SSB. QSL via operator's instructions.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 47 December 19, 2024] (1220-0117)

YB, INDONESIA. Jozef, ON6HX is guest operating as **YB9/ON6HX** from Lombok Island (OC-150) until February 6th. QSL via [ON6HX](#), LoTW, and eQSL.

-[425DXN # 1757 January 4, 2025] (0103-0207)

YB, INDONESIA. Indra, **YB8QT**, remains active from Siau Barat, Sangihe Island (OC-210) into 2025. QSL via [IK2DUW](#).

-[DXNL # 2439 January 1, 2025] (0103-0124)

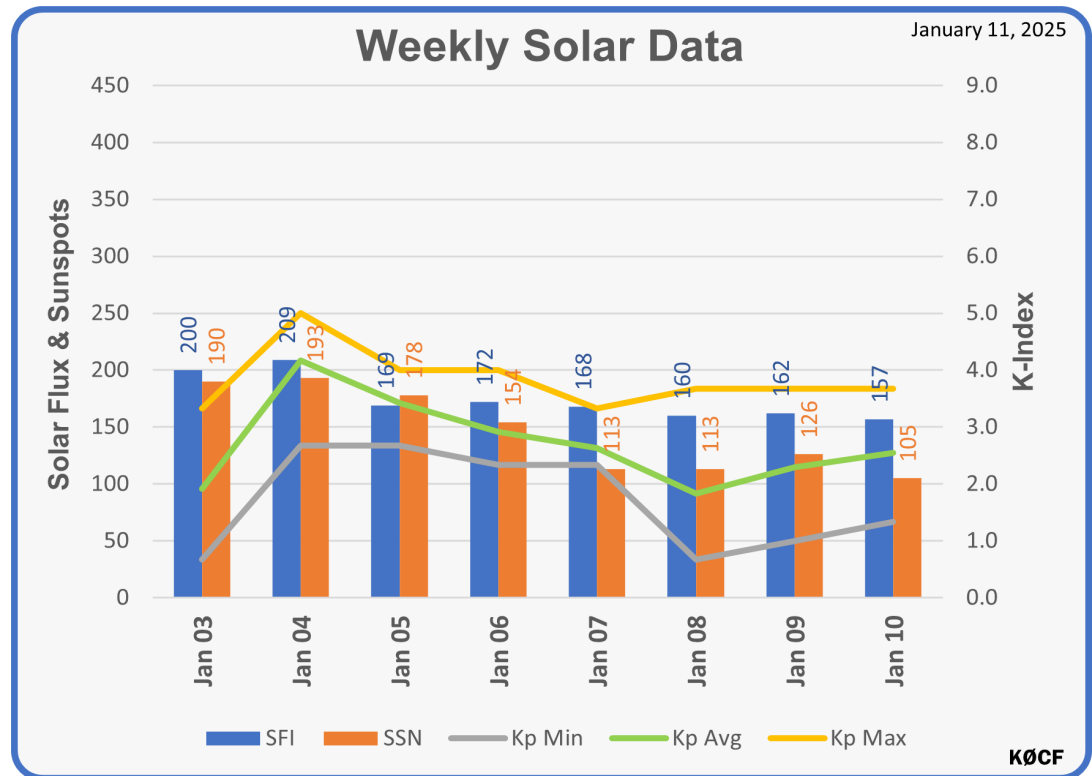
ZF, CAYMAN IS. Bruce, KØBJ will be active holiday style as **ZF2BJ** from the Cayman Islands (NA-016) on January 5th to 17th. He will operate CW and possibly FT8. QSL via LoTW, or via [KØBJ](#).

-[425DXN # 1757 January 4, 2025] (0103-0117)

ZS, SOUTH AFRICA. On May 20, 2025, the South African Radio League will celebrate its 100th anniversary. The SARL Centenary Marathon QSO Party is set to kick off for a year-long operating event starting from 0000 UTC on January 1st and ending at 2359 UTC on December 31st. Throughout the year, the SARL, with the aid of its members and associated clubs, will be on the air with a special event callsign **ZS1ØØSARL**, as well as the permanent callsigns **ZS6SRL** and **ZS9HQ**, and possibly other special event callsigns. A number of awards will be available, see <https://mysarl.org.za/centenary-marathon/> for more information.

-[425DXN # 1756 December 28, 2024] (1227-0124)

Propagation (Updated daily)



The Weekly Solar Data chart plots Solar Flux Index (SFI), Sunspot number (SSN) and Planetary K-Index (Kp) for the past 8 days. With 8 Planetary K-index readings each day, only the minimum, average and maximum K-index values are plotted. **Note:** You may click [here](#) or on the chart above to see the same data for the past month.

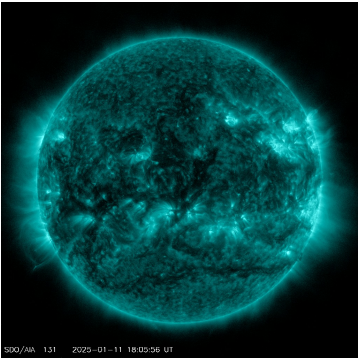
The Daily Solar Flux Index, Sunspot number, Planetary K-index, Solar Flux predictions and Solar Flare data used in this bulletin have been collected by KØCF from from the U.S. Department of Commerce's NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center.

The propagation graphs above are the creations of KØCF and are unique in space weather reporting.

Please Note: The graphs are high resolution .PNG files which you may view in greater detail using your browser's "zoom" feature. Alternatively, right click on the graph and select "Open Image in New Tab" to enlarge it, or "Save Image As..." to save it to your computer for further analysis.

NASA's current view of the Sun at a wave-length of 131 Angstroms. This wavelength shows incredible solar detail.

Click [here](#) or on the image to view as a full screen 48-hour video loop. It is fascinating!



Propagation Summary

For the 8 day period from Friday, January 3rd through yesterday, January 10th.

The average solar flux was 171, down 56 points from the previous week, with a weekly high of 209 on Saturday, January 4th, followed by a low of 157 on January 10th.

The average sunspot count was 140, down by 43 from last week, peaking at 193 on Saturday, January 4th followed by a weekly low of 105 on January 10th.

The Planetary K-index weekly average was 3.8 with a maximum of 5.0 on Saturday, January 4th, indicating a minor geomagnetic storm. Yesterday's K-index maximum was 3.7 with generally quiet conditions.

Solar flare activity since January 4th has been high with 12 major flares, the largest of which was a major X 1.8 event on Saturday, January 4th.

Propagation Data

Major solar flares, Saturday, January 4th through 1416 UTC, January 11th.

#	Date	UTC	Mag.
1	Jan 09	0026	M 1.1
2	Jan 06	1624	M 4.8
3	Jan 06	0350	M 1.4
4	Jan 06	0152	M 3.1
5	Jan 05	1537	M 2.4
6	Jan 05	0936	M 4.1
7	Jan 05	0718	M 2.1
8	Jan 05	0239	M 4.1
9	Jan 04	2336	M 2.2
10	Jan 04	1248	X 1.8
11	Jan 04	0518	M 7.6

12	Jan 04	0036	M 1.6
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(NOAA's graph of recent flare activity: [GOES-X-Ray-Flux](#))

From the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center, here are the probabilities of major solar flares and the predicted 10.7 cm Solar Flux for the next 3 days. NOAA updates this information daily.

Date	M-Flares	X-Flares	Solar Flux
Jan 11	50%	10%	160
Jan 12	50%	10%	155
Jan 13	50%	10%	150

Looking farther ahead, here is the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center forecast of 10.7 cm radio flux and maximum Planetary K-index (Kp) for the next 12 days. This data is updated by NOAA every Monday (last updated on January 6, 2025).

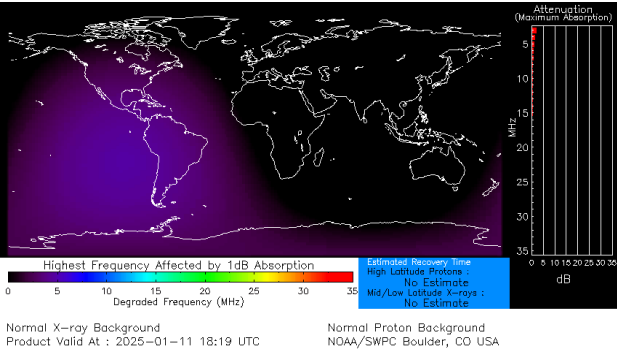
Date	Flux	Kp
Jan 11	175	3
Jan 12	180	3
Jan 13	180	2
Jan 14	175	2

Date	Flux	Kp
Jan 15	175	2
Jan 16	180	4
Jan 17	190	3
Jan 18	200	3

Date	Flux	Kp
Jan 19	210	3
Jan 20	220	3
Jan 21	230	2
Jan 22	230	2

Global D Region Absorption

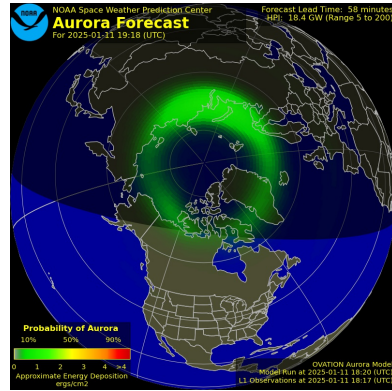
Conditions in the D-region of the ionosphere have a dramatic effect on HF communications. The D-Region Absorption map combines the effects of solar particles and photons. Yellow to red colors on the map depict increasing signal attenuation, where the bar chart at the right displays attenuation versus frequency. Click the thumbnail below for an animated map of D-Region Absorption:



The Aurora Borealis

The aurora is not only beautiful to see but can have a profound impact on HF and VHF radio propagation. For the HF operator, auroras can result in a complete shut-down of propagation. However, on VHF, auroras present interesting DX possibilities. Beam antennas are very desirable and should be pointed north, towards the aurora. Signals are reflected by “back-scatter” and will be distorted with a rough buzz. SSB is the best voice mode to use, but copy can be difficult. CW will have a rough buzzy sound but be perfectly copyable. Click the thumbnail below for an animated map of

aurora versus time:



Highs for Cycle 25

Solar Flux: 336 on August 8, 2024.

Sunspots: 382 on August 10, 2024.

Quiet Weekend

No CMEs are heading for Earth, and no sunspots are actively flaring. It all adds up to a quiet weekend. This forecast could be upended by one or [two emerging sunspots](#) if they become big rapidly enough. (Copyright © [SpaceWeather.com](#) January 10, 2025. Republished by permission.)

Popular Propagation web sites

<https://prop.kc2g.com/> (Excellent Maximum Usable Frequency map)

NOAA <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/>

<https://www.spaceweather.com/>

<https://www.solarham.com/>

<https://dx.qsl.net/propagation/>

A Propagation Tutorial

The solar X-ray flux tracks solar activity and solar flares. Solar flux, which can vary from as low as 50 to as high as 300, influences the level of ionization in the F2 region of the ionosphere, providing a very good prediction of HF DX conditions. The higher the solar flux, the better conditions will be for the higher HF frequencies and even 6 meters. However, the levels need to be maintained for some days to allow ionization in the F2 layer to build up. A solar flux of 150 results in good HF band conditions, while levels of 200 and up can provide great conditions.

Large X-ray flares on the sun can increase the ionization of the D layer of the ionosphere (a lower layer) on the sunlit side of the Earth, greatly attenuating or blocking HF radio transmissions for up to a half hour. Solar flares often produce Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) which, if Earth directed, can lead to geomagnetic storms. Some large flares are also accompanied by strong radio bursts that may interfere with other radio frequencies and cause problems for satellite communication and radio navigation (GPS).

The Planetary K-index is a measure of the magnitude of geomagnetic storms and is an excellent indicator of disturbances in the Earth's magnetic field. A level of 1 or 2 represents quiet geomagnetic conditions; a reading of 3 or 4 may cause some propagation deterioration; 5 and 6 are minor to moderate geomagnetic storms; and 7 to 9 are strong, severe, and extreme storm conditions. Strong geomagnetic storms can trigger Auroral displays and cause HF radio blackouts. Higher geomagnetic activity also has the adverse effect of lowering maximum usable frequencies, much like lower solar flux does.

For best conditions, the solar flux should be above 150 for a few days with the K index below 2. When these conditions are met, some good DX is likely!

-[Compiled from information on NOAA.gov and other sources]

Contest Calendar

Weekly Contests

Contest	Start UTC		End	Web Site
K1USN Slow Speed Test	Monday	0000Z	0100Z	Rules
ICWC Medium Speed Test	Monday	1300Z	1400Z	Rules
	Monday	1900Z	2000Z	
	Tuesday	0300Z	0400Z	
CWops Test (CWT)	Wednesday	1300Z	1400Z	Rules
	Wednesday	1900Z	2000Z	
	Thursday	0300Z	0400Z	
	Thursday	0700Z	0800Z	
Weekly RTTY Test	Friday	0145Z	0215Z	Rules
NCCC CW Sprint (NS)	Friday	0230Z	0300Z	Rules

Note: Start Days are in UTC, e.g. Monday at 0000 UTC is Sunday at 7:00 PM in the Central Daylight Saving Time zone, or Sunday at 6:00 PM in the Central Standard Time zone.

Full Calendar

Contest	Start		End		Web Site
YB DX Contest	Jan 11	0000Z	Jan 11	2359Z	Rules
North American QSO Party, CW	Jan 11	1800Z	Jan 12	0600Z	Rules
Hungarian DX Contest	Jan 18	1200Z	Jan 19	1200Z	Rules
North American QSO Party, SSB	Jan 18	1800Z	Jan 19	0600Z	Rules
ARRL January VHF Contest	Jan 18	1900Z	Jan 20	0359Z	Rules
CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW	Jan 24	2200Z	Jan 26	2159Z	Rules
BARTG RTTY Sprint	Jan 25	1200Z	Jan 26	1200Z	Rules
Winter Field Day	Jan 25	1700Z	Jan 26	1700Z	Rules
Vermont QSO Party	Feb 1	0000Z	Feb 2	2400Z	Rules
10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB	Feb 1	0001Z	Feb 2	2359Z	Rules
Mexico RTTY International Contest	Feb 1	1200Z	Feb 2	2359Z	Rules
Minnesota QSO Party	Feb 1	1400Z	Feb 1	2400Z	Rules
British Columbia QSO Party	Feb 1	1600Z	Feb 2	2400Z	Rules
North American Sprint, CW	Feb 2	0000Z	Feb 2	0359Z	Rules
CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest	Feb 8	0000Z	Feb 9	2400Z	Rules
ARRL School Club Roundup	Feb 10	1300Z	Feb 14	2359Z	Rules
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW	Feb 15	0000Z	Feb 16	2400Z	Rules
CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	Feb 21	2200Z	Feb 23	2159Z	Rules
South Carolina QSO Party	Feb 22	1500Z	Feb 23	0159Z	Rules
North American QSO Party, RTTY	Feb 22	1800Z	Feb 23	0600Z	Rules

North Carolina QSO Party	Feb 23	1500Z	Feb 24	0100Z	Rules
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB	Mar 1	0000Z	Mar 2	2400Z	Rules
Open Ukraine RTTY Championship	Mar 1	1800Z	Mar 2	1359Z	Rules
YB DX RTTY Contest	Mar 8	0000Z	Mar 8	2359Z	Rules
Oklahoma QSO Party	Mar 8	1400Z	Mar 9	2100Z	Rules
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	Mar 8	1500Z	Mar 9	1500Z	Rules
Idaho QSO Party	Mar 8	1900Z	Mar 9	1900Z	Rules
North American Sprint, RTTY	Mar 9	0000Z	Mar 9	0359Z	Rules
Wisconsin QSO Party	Mar 9	1800Z	Mar 10	0100Z	Rules
BARTG HF RTTY Contest	Mar 15	0200Z	Mar 17	0200Z	Rules
Russian DX Contest	Mar 15	1200Z	Mar 16	1200Z	Rules
Virginia QSO Party	Mar 15	1400Z	Mar 16	2400Z	Rules
North American SSB Sprint Contest	Mar 23	0000Z	Mar 23	0400Z	Rules
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	Mar 29	0000Z	Mar 30	2400Z	Rules
Louisiana QSO Party	Apr 5	1400Z	Apr 6	0200Z	Rules
SP DX Contest	Apr 5	1500Z	Apr 6	1500Z	Rules
JIDX CW Contest	Apr 12	0700Z	Apr 13	1300Z	Rules
New Mexico QSO Party	Apr 12	1400Z	Apr 13	0200Z	Rules
Georgia QSO Party	Apr 12	1800Z	Apr 13	2359Z	Rules
ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB	Apr 13	1800Z	Apr 13	2359Z	Rules

-[Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)]